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"Those who are lovers of wisdom must be inquirers into many things indeed."
Clement of Alexandria

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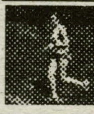
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Chain blocking access to main quad

Safety help or safety hazard?

by Ashley Lee '02
NEWS WRITER

You turn sharply off of College Hill Road, only to come face to face with a metal chain. Annoying? Yes! Life threatening? Perhaps.

The metal chain that used to close off the main quad occasionally (the one near South Residence Hall) has recently been blocking the entrance all the time. Cars are now unable to pass freely through the quad as they once did. This decision, made by Campus Safety, has raised questions from the student body, specifically, from members of the EMT staff.

These EMTs have expressed concern about the chain impeding their access to an emergency call at any of the dorms or classroom buildings located near the quad. Previously, EMTs with cars could simply drive to a call; now they have to walk, or rather run, due to limited access. EMTs raised another question about emergency vehicles and their access to the quad. The emergency staff expressed concern that the chain would increase these vehicles' response time.

Alysia Mihalakos '01, an EMT, explained "The chain is just one more barrier between EMTs and Campus Safety to an emergency call."

Director of Campus Safety Pat Ingalls addressed this issue and explained the reason for the chain's full-time use. She gave two main reasons. First, she focused on the fact that Hamilton is a "pedestrian campus." As such, her office feels that it is necessary to ensure the well-being of those walking in the quad. Speeding cars put pedestrians at risk, not to mention that handicapped students are in greater danger when the quad is open to traffic.

Ingalls also focused on the amount of traffic problems caused by parked cars in the quad. Not only is it illegal to park in the quad because it is officially a fire zone, parked [illegible] room for emergency vehicles to pass, thus extending emergency vehicle response time. Ingalls explained that Campus Safety issued

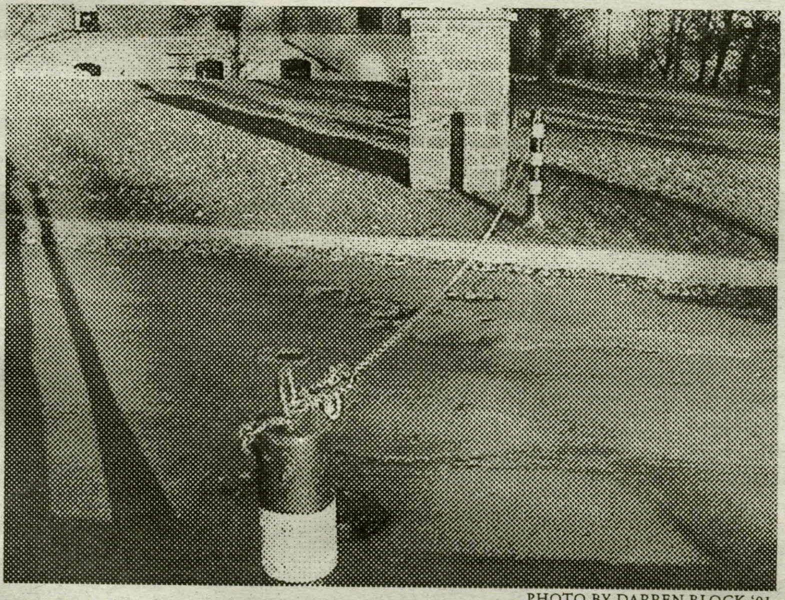
PHOTO BY DARREN BLOCK '01
This now permanent campus fixture has generated controversy among the Hamilton community.

a large number of tickets prior to its extreme decision to close off the quad.

In regard to the concern that ambulances and fire trucks would be unable to get past the chain, [illegible] have keys to the chain's lock. Also, in an emergency, Campus Safety is the first to receive the information, and they meet the emergency vehicle at the bottom of the hill and escort it to the site. Thus, the chain should not be an issue.

Mihalakos pointed out that this, however, could be a problem; if Campus Safety has to leave the site that the EMTs will not have an officer present. Often, there is more

see Chain, page 2

Gift to improve Martin's Way

by Lisa Widowski '01
NEWS EDITOR

The members of the Class of 2000 announced their intentions for a senior gift after a brief reception at the Admissions Office on Wednesday evening. The gift, chosen by a senior class vote last Friday and Monday, will be the beautification of the area under Martin's Way.

While the details are still in the works, the class plans to establish a 20 x 20 plot of grass with picnic benches, which will lie near the stairs off the bridge. According to Senior Gift Campaign Co-Chair Allison Root, much of this area establish a small space for students to gather.

At the reception, Co-Chairs Art McCann and Allison Root and Communications and Development liaison Tony Pasiak '96 spoke briefly about the gift and their plan of action for money collection. The Co-Chairs stressed that seniors who do not agree with the senior gift choice may give to the general Annual Fund, which would fund Hamilton scholarships and activities.

Hamilton boasts a 90% participation rate for Senior Gift-giving, which is "really a phenomenal number," commented Root.

Root went on to say, "Art and I are really excited about the Senior Gift and looking forward to high numbers of class participation."

Students can address any questions about the Senior Gift campaign to Co-Chairs Allison Root and Art McCann.

SPECTACLES

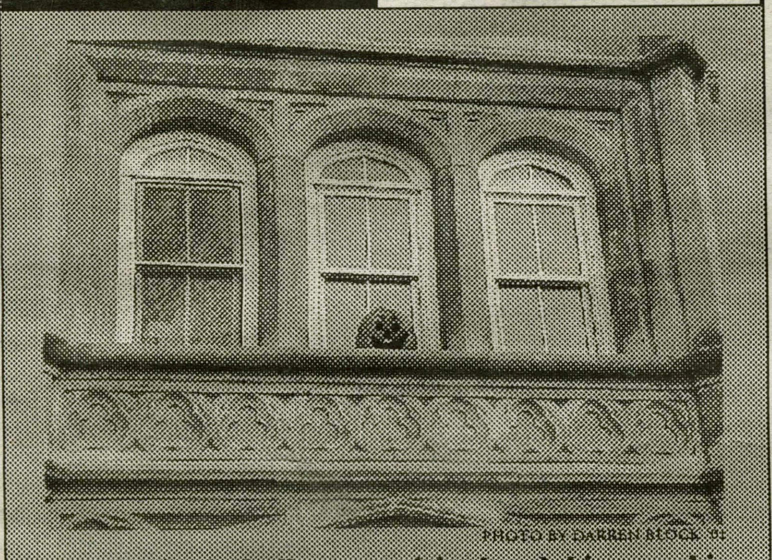
PHOTO BY DARREN BLOCK '01
Students in the halloween spirit placed this pumpkin outside their room in South.

EMT Recognition Week underway

by Lisa Widowski '01
NEWS EDITOR

You've seen them around campus, toting their orange bags, eager and willing to dash off to a possible medical emergency at any moment. They are the EMTs, a group of 26 highly dedicated individuals committed to preserving the health and well-being of the Hamilton community.

As National Collegiate Emergency Medical Service Week comes to a close, it is important to realize that Hamilton EMTs are "not just a group of kids who took a first aid course," according to Diann Lynch, coordinator of the program.

The EMT staff is New York State certified; therefore, they must undergo a rigorous and extensive training process. They receive the same training as individuals who work for ambulance services, such as COVAC. Any interested student must complete an application process that includes interviews and recommendations.

Upon acceptance to the program, a prospective EMT attends training sessions that span the entire spring semester. As soon as winter break ends, while most students are still trying to forget about all the fruitcake they ate, the EMT candidates begin their training. This training takes place every Monday and Wednesday evening from 7-10 p.m., and then every Saturday from 8a.m.-1p.m., culminating in over 160 hours of classroom time. Periodically throughout the training, the candidates must take quizzes and exams.

Upon successful completion of an exam at the end of the course, a prospective EMT may then take the New York State certification exam. This test consists of both a written and practical portion, where candidates must demonstrate proficiency in all medical procedures for which they are trained. If successful on this exam, an individual then becomes a New York State certified Emergency Medical Technician, a status that lasts for three years.

The EMTs on campus are no different from an EMT that works for an ambulance service. Each EMT can do everything from delivering a baby to treating a patient in cardiac arrest.

"While we haven't had an extreme medical emergency yet, if that happened, we are here and we can take care of it," stated veteran EMT Meagan Kearney '00.

In addition, the EMTs have all

see EMT, page 2

Hamilton students arrested in Village

by Lisa Widowski '01
NEWS EDITOR

Police arrested and charged five Hamilton students with underage drinking and violating the Village of Clinton's open container policy, according to the Nov. 3 issue of the *Clinton Courier*.

The incident, which occurred on Oct. 30, happened during the infamous "around the world" party, held downtown each year.

According to the *Courier*, the Kirkland Police Department received numerous tips throughout the week that indicated the intended date of the festivities. Because it was unclear whether the party would be on Friday or Saturday evening, Police Chief Daniel J. English had seven patrol cars on the road both nights in anticipation of the party.

The party took place at several locations, including apartments on

see Student Arrests, page 2

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Chain sparks concern over EMT response time

from Chain, page 1

than one call at a time, and the chain could cause chaos at a moment when speed is essential.

Finally, in reference to the complaint that EMTs cannot drive to their calls, Registered Nurse Diann Lynch, advisor for the EMT program, explained that motor vehicle transportation is not really a necessity because the campus is so small. Also, EMTs have special parking permits, so if they were to park illegally, they would not receive a ticket.

While students express annoyance at the presence of the chain, they seem to understand its necessity. One former resident of North Dorm stated, "I would have hated having the chain there last year; it would have been such a pain. However, I see why Campus Safety would have to put it up."

Ideally, Campus Safety could leave the chain down and students would respect the no-parking policy, but this did not prove possible. Consequently, Campus Safety closed off the quad, thus ensuring that the roadway would be clear when necessary.

This is not to say that the chain is not an inconvenience to those students dropping off large items to their dorm rooms or loads of books to the library. During October Break there was an incident where a number of cars were backed onto College Hill Road because the chain was up and they could not get into the quad. As an alternative, parents and students alike began to drive on the sidewalks and in front of the library. Mihalakos expressed concern about student safety during this incident.

"It was dark when this was happening; the cars could have put pedestrians in danger. People are going to get into the quad no matter what, so Campus Safety might as well have opened it up."

According to Mihalakos, someone contacted a Campus Safety dispatcher, who refused to unlock the chain. It was not until much later that night that someone called Assistant Director of Campus Safety Jerome Duda, and with his permission, the chain was removed.

In light of the issues raised over this past break, Campus Safety has decided to remove the chain on Tuesday Nov. 23 to facilitate students leaving for break. Ingalls reminds students, however, that they may only load and unload from cars: Campus Safety will tow parked cars.

New shopping complex approval anticipated

James P. Du Vernay '03
NEWS WRITER

If a proposed shopping complex receives final approval later this month, the 310,000 residents of the Mohawk Valley will soon have a national bookstore chain and a Mexican restaurant available for their enjoyment.

Following nearly a decade of controversy and public opposition, construction of the 530,731 square foot Consumer Square Shopping Complex may soon begin on Commercial Drive in the Village of New Hartford.

The village of New Hartford originally approved plans calling for a 568,108 square foot complex in June of this past summer. Before construction could commence, however, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers raised significant concerns about highly valuable wetland areas, which the project would endanger. The development company has responded with revised plans that incorporate a reduction in area and a reconfiguration of the complex, which would pose less of a threat to the wetlands.

New Hartford's Planning Board completed its inspection of the revised plans at an Oct. 22 meeting. Several state and county agencies, such as the state Department of Transportation, the Department of Environmental Conservation, and the Oneida County Planning Department will now have the opportunity to review the plans.

"You have to give them at least 30 days to respond," says Planning Board Chairman Joseph Yagey.

Pending final approval by the planning board, Benderson Development Corp. of Buffalo, NY, a large northeastern development firm, plans to begin as soon as possible, most likely in early December. Mark Levitt, an attorney for Benderson, predicts a timeline of one year, depending on weather conditions, to complete the project.

Commenting on the consequences of the reduction in square footage, Levitt said, "I'm not an engineer, but I guess there will be either fewer stores or smaller stores."

Mohawk Valley Chamber of Commerce President Bob Fawoer eagerly anticipates the start of construction.

"The nine years of controversy surrounding this project serves as a microcosm of why communities here have been treading water economically for two decades. Here, a company wants to develop vacant land and infuse $36 million in economic development."

Despite the public opposition to the project, Fawoer envisions many long-term benefits. He believes the project will add to the retail well-being of the community while providing consumers with more shopping options. The Village of New Hartford expects to realize $800,000 to $1million in annual taxes from Consumer Square.

Public opposition to the shopping complex remains strong among some groups. A primary concern is the destructive aspect of the project towards valuable wetlands and the stress it places on the environment. Small local merchants fear the competition from the large national chains that may lease stores in the complex. Additionally, an intensification of traffic congestion could arise from Consumer Square's close proximity to the existing Sangertown Square mall just down the road.

Fawoer meanwhile maintains his firm support of this project and projects like it. "Capitalism, growth, and democracy: we are all about that. This project fits all three categories."

Until the company receives final approval of its plans and signs leases, a representative of Benderson refused to comment on the stores that would fill Consumer Square. Fawoer reported that national chains such as Chili's Mexican restaurant and Border's Bookstore expressed interest in the location. He also expressed with dismay that Border's may have been eliminated in the reduced plans. The entire Mohawk Valley, consisting of Herkimer and Oneida counties, cannot boast of a single large chain bookstore.

Hamilton College students may benefit from the increased number and variety of stores. Freshman David Greene wisely commented, "The more stores they can bring to the area, the better. My concern is whether or not the Jitney will go there."

A sophomore who wished to remain anonymous expressed similar supportive sentiments for the complex.

"Having a Barnes and Noble is a good idea. And anything with Mexican food sounds great to me."

KPD makes five Halloween weekend arrests

from Student Arrests, page 1

celebrations drew several loud noise complaints throughout the village. Chief English reported that officers confiscated two kegs and taps at two of the parties.

Of the hundreds of Hamilton students in attendance that evening, police arrested five [illegible] ranged from underage possession of alcohol to violation of an open container law.

"For every one we arrested, 30 or more simply walked away," Chief English stated.

Elections for Student Assembly President and Vice President

Wednesday, December 8, 1999

If interested, please contact Meghan Reynolds for further information and to request a petition.

All materials, including the petition and platform, are due by Wednesday, December 1.

President and Vice President run as a single ticket and hold office from January-December 2000.

Contact Meghan Reynolds (x2655 or email: mreynold) for a petition.

Save a Tree

spec.hamilton.edu

Kill an Electron

Movieplex 9 ONEIDA
WWW. HOLLYWOOD.COM
RTE.5 & 46 GLENWOOD SHOPPING PLAZA
24 HRS MOVIE INFO 363-6422
THE MESSENGER: THE STORY OF JOAN OF ARC ●12:30●3:45▲6:50-9:55 DTS R
ANYWHERE BUT HERE ●2:10▲4:40-7:00-9:20 PG-13
POKEMON ●12:10●2:20▲4:30-6:40-8:50 DTS G
LIGHT IT UP ●1:10●3:20▲5:30-7:40-9:45 R
BONE COLLECTOR #1 PICTURE IN AMERICA ●12●2:30▲4:50-7:30-9:50 R
BACHELOR ●12:40●2:50▲5:00-7:10-9:15 PG-13
HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL●1:20●3:30▲5:40-7:50-10 R
DOUBLE JEOPARDY●12:45●2:55▲5:05-7:20-9:30 R
AMERICAN BEAUTY ●2▲4:25-6:55-9:25 R
●MATS SAT-SUN $3.75▲TWILITE-$4.50 COLLEGE ID.

EMTs raise awareness

from EMT, page 1

the same equipment as transport ambulance companies, including several different kinds of splints and supplies for suction procedures.

Currently, the EMT staff is trying to purchase a defibrillator, an invaluable piece of life-saving equipment that typically costs around $4,000. This is the only piece of equipment missing from the collection of supplies on campus. Although the staff is certified to use a defibrillator (used when the heart goes into chaotic rhythm), the college does not own one. Therefore, any individual whose emergency warrants the use of this equipment must wait for an ambulance from COVAC. This can create as much as a five-minute delay in the person's care.

The most common call to the student EMT staff is for an injury, be it from an intramural sport mishap or a nasty trip down the stairs. EMTs also attend to many illness-related emergencies, such as those resulting from asthma or diabetes. Alcohol-related emergencies are not as common as students often think.

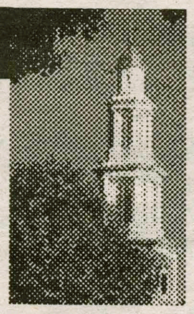
The average EMT is on call more than 30 hours per week and at least three individuals are on call at all times. Because EMTs on campus generally do not have a lot of experience, there are not only mandatory monthly training sessions, but also weekly quizzes throughout the year, which keep the students' skills and procedural knowledge sharp.

An individual who commits to the EMT program must sign a contract verifying that he or she will serve the campus for four consecutive semesters. This eliminates the study abroad option for any EMT.

Equipment manager Tom Anderson '01 notes that the EMT organization "is fundamentally different than any other organization on campus." The staff consists only of volunteers, who do not receive monetary compensation for their hard work and dedication.

"As an EMT, I get a sense of personal achievement," said Kearney. "It doesn't matter as much if no one knows how much goes into being an EMT, because I know that I'm making a difference and helping people."

IVORY TOWERS



THE NEWS AT COLLEGES ACROSS THE LAND

Compiled By Cristen Sargent '01

Year after death of Michigan State U. student, family advocates sensible drinking

(U-WIRE) EAST LANSING, Mich. — One year after Bradley McCue's death, his friends and family are still encouraging students to drink responsibly.

The Michigan State University junior died in the early hours of his 21st birthday, Nov. 5, 1998, after consuming 24 shots in two hours while celebrating with friends at Rick's American Cafe in East Lansing, Mich. His blood-alcohol level was reported at .44 percent, four times the amount considered legally drunk.

Since McCue's death, university health officials and McCue's parents have worked to raise awareness about alcohol poisoning and binge drinking. McCue's death drew national attention as it came a year after the alcohol-related deaths of students at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Louisiana State University. In January, a Ferris State University student died of alcohol poisoning.

On Feb. 2, the McCue family formed BRAD, Be Responsible About Drinking, to educate high school and college students about alcohol poisoning.

"We don't want to see what happened to Bradley happen to anybody else," his mother, Cindy McCue, said. "We don't want anyone else to have to experience this."

Clinton makes history with first virtual town hall

(U-WIRE) WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton made history Monday night, answering questions during the first presidential online town hall meeting.

Clinton said the town hall was a "bold experimentation" and compared his participation with other presidential firsts, including Franklin Roosevelt's fireside chats and John F. *Kennedy's press conferences.*

Clinton participated in the online town hall at the George Washington University, which was sponsored by the Democratic Leadership Council and the Excite@Home Web portal. Other Democratic politicians, including New Hampshire Gov. Jeanne Shaheen and Maryland Lt. Gov. Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, participated in the chat from their own states via the Web. Marc Andreessen, co-founder of Netscape Communications, was also online.

Clinton was read questions by DLC President Al From from people that were viewing the event online. Town hall participatants originated from coast to coast and also from England and Canada. Clinton and the other politicians' answers were submitted online. The chat was broadcast with video and sound as well.

Clinton covered topics including health care, crime, education, the budget and technology.

The chat was not free from technical glitches. It took more than 30 minutes for San Jose Mayor Ron Gonzales (D) to get connected to the chat.

"It takes a few tries to get all our neighborhoods connected," Gonzales said after finally receiving a connection.

In his discussion about the issues, Clinton encouraged future politicians to maintain the AmeriCorps program. About 150,000 young people participate in the community service oriented program, Clinton said.

"AmeriCorps is changing America for the better," he said. "It's a wonderful, wonderful thing."

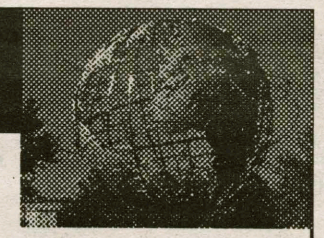
Clinton said there are a variety of ways to ensure safety in schools. Clinton said two solutions for preventing school violence include a zero-tolerance policy for weapons and a system that identifies troubled children before something goes wrong. He said that even with recent violence in schools, they are still the safest places for students to be.

Homemade bombs prompt evacuation for two MSU residence halls

(U-WIRE) EAST LANSING, Mich. — Several people were evacuated Wednesday from Michigan State University's Phillips and Snyder halls after an employee reported seeing several bombs in the courtyard.

Nine homemade bombs were found by local police at about 8:10 a.m. in various places within the courtyard between the two buildings. No one was injured and the bombs, which police said were placed randomly. They posed no major threat, MSU police Detective Tony Willis said.

WORLD NEWS



Compiled By Christopher LaRosa '03

Colombia car bomb blast kills eight

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) - Raising the specter of a bloody era when drug lords sowed terror to avoid extradition to the United States, a car bomb ripped through a Bogota commercial district Thursday, killing at least eight people and injuring 45.

The shrapnel-packed bomb, placed in a red Mazda sedan and believed detonated by remote control, destroyed a two-story house and a restaurant on a wide avenue and blew out the windows of banks, stores and apartment buildings nearly a quarter mile away.

It was the Colombian capital's worst blast since the wave of terror by the Medellin cocaine cartel in the late 1980s and early 1990s aimed at stopping the extradition of its members to the United States. The campaign only ended with the cartel's 1993 demise.

The new attack came a day after the Supreme Court approved the second handover in a week of a major alleged drug trafficker to the United States - and Colombians feared it was a blunt warning to the government not to go ahead with more than three dozen planned extraditions.

"You get the feeling the wolf is raising its ears again," said Miguel Maza, a former head of the state security agency. Maza headed the agency in 1989, when a bomb placed by traffickers leveled its headquarters, killing 80 employees in the single most devastating attack of the era.

Colombia is the world's No. 1 cocaine exporter and a growing heroin supplier. U.S. officials have pressured authorities here to extradite drug kingpins for trial in U.S. courtrooms, where they face much stiffer sentences than in Colombia.

After sex contra[illegible]

TORONTO (AP) - At least one pharmacy and possibly others won't be selling the first pill approved for preventing pregnancy after sex, says a spokesman for Roberts Pharmaceutical.

But major chains as well as most independent stores will be dispensing Preven - described by some as a morning-after pill - despite objections by anti-abortionists, said Gert Jurgeneit, general manager of the company that markets the prescription pill in Canada.

He was speaking Wednesday after a news conference where police kept watch for protesters who never showed up.

After word of Preven's approval by Health Canada leaked out last week, anti-abortionists threatened to boycott Roberts and drugstores that sell it.

The Campaign Life Coalition, for one, argues that life begins the moment a sperm fertilizes an egg.

Italy apartment building collapses

FOGGIA, Italy (AP) - A six-story apartment building came crashing down upon 24 sleeping households in southern Italy on Thursday, trapping them in a 15-foot-high heap of concrete and dust. Only one family escaped intact, fleeing with seconds to spare after a frantic attempt to save their neighbors.

Wakened by the sound of the building shaking itself to pieces, the family of five ran apartment to apartment, ringing doorbells and pounding on doors. The effort nearly cost them their lives, said building superintendent Luigi Laconta, who ran from the building with the family at the last minute.

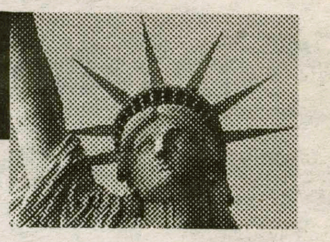
"I took a step back, thinking I could see someone stick their head out the window," Laconta said. "Instead, I saw the entire building crumple."

By nightfall, authorities had accounted for only 17 survivors out of the 70 to 75 people believed to be inside. The latest, a young man, was pulled out more than nine hours after the last survivor had been found. After a day of seeing only covered bodies on gurneys go by, the dusty search crews stopped digging to applaud the rescue, shouting, "He's alive!"

Searchers recovered 13 corpses, wheeling them out under green sheets with broken limbs dangling.

Paramilitary police Capt. Antonio Di Spazio said he feared about 50 people had been killed.

NATIONAL NEWS



Compiled By Christopher LaRosa '03

Clinton lawyers seek lawsuit delay

WASHINGTON (AP) - Resorting to an argument that failed them in the Paula Jones case, President Clinton's lawyers are seeking to delay a lawsuit involving the Clintons' house purchase in New York until after the president leaves office.

Clinton lawyer David Kendall filed a motion this week asking that the suit filed by the conservative group Judicial Watch be blocked until the president's departure from the White House on Jan. 20, 2001, if a federal judge doesn't dismiss the case.

Judicial Watch wants to have the mortgage rescinded on the Clintons' house purchase, alleging that its terms are an illegal gratuity from the mortgage lender.

"This country cannot afford to have the president continually subject to discovery romps by partisan counsel ... for political purposes," Kendall stated in court papers.

An "intrusive and time-consuming" lawsuit "over the purchase of a private residence "would be intolerable," said Kendall.

"The burden of defending against a lawsuit such as this compels the president to raise anew and preserve the argument that civil suits against him should be stayed for the duration of his term in office," Kendall added.

The Supreme Court ruled in 1997 that the Paula Jones sexual harassment lawsuit against Clinton should proceed because witnesses might be lost due to the passage of time and memories might fade. Mrs. Jones' alleged hotel room encounter with Clinton occurred in 1991. The Supreme Court ruled that the Jones case was unlikely to take up a substantial amount of Clinton's time.

The Supreme Court "drastically underestimated the burden" a lawsuit can place on a president, said Kendall, and "whereas the Jones case was filed only a year and a half after the president's first inauguration [illegible] the president now has just [illegible]

Kendall noted that the Supreme Court ruled that while presidents are not immune from civil suit while in office, a U.S. District Court judge has "broad discretion" to delay such suits based on "the high respect that is owed to the office of the chief executive."

Five dead in nursing home explosion

FLINT, Mich. (AP) - Three backhoes dug through discarded wheelchairs, beds and mounds of twisted metal Thursday as rescuers sifted through the remains of a nursing home fire that killed five people and injured more than 20.

The boiler in the basement of the Clara Barton Convalescence Center exploded just before 9 p.m. Wednesday, blowing out windows and collapsing the ceiling.

Firefighters and neighbors scrambled to pull dazed survivors out of the flaming building. Many residents were confused and clothed only in hospital gowns as they were taken into the rain and cold.

About 110 people, including 94 residents, were inside the home at the time of the explosion. Two employees and three residents, aged 77 to 88, were killed.

FBI sets up two new divisions

WASHINGTON (AP) - Criticized for investigations of alleged Chinese nuclear espionage and political contributions, the FBI set up two new divisions Thursday to devote more attention to catching and thwarting terrorists and spies.

One of the new entities, the Investigative Services Division, also is designed to ensure that top FBI officials and investigators are aware of all relevant information scattered in case files around various bureau divisions.

Another goal is to improve the bureau's analytic capability so that it can move to prevent crimes as well as solve them after they occur.

Months in the making, the moves follow recent criticism from Congress, an executive branch commission and the Justice Department inspector general of the bureau's handling of two sensitive investigations involving China. The bureau was said to have focused too narrowly, failed to distribute relevant leads to all its divisions and failed to keep top officials aware of key evidence.

The moves were announced by FBI Director Louis J. Freeh after being endorsed by Attorney General Janet Reno and approved by Congress.

Conference fosters ideas for improved communication

by Suzanne Dougherty '00
NEWS WRITER

The Adler Conference has been a Hamilton College tradition since 1966. Dedicated to the memory of the late Charles Adler, a Hamilton professor of history, the Conference seeks to discuss issues of concern each year at Hamilton. Matt Eng '02, Steve Guditus '01, and John O'Keeffe '01 chaired the 1999 conference.

This year's conference discussed the issues surrounding communication on campus. Among the topics that sub-groups discussed were: the role of technology and communication, the external communication of Hamilton, the use of campus space to encourage discussion, the strengths our community possesses to communicate effectively, and the open discussion of campus issues on a regular basis.

The conference officially kicked off on Friday, Nov.5 with a dinner and reception in Commons Dining Hall that gave participants the opportunity to meet and discuss ideas for the following day's activities.

After a continental breakfast at Cafe Opus on Saturday morning, the conference continued with the keynote speaker Sona Virdi '94 who addressed participants in Wellin Hall. Virdi, who was an active member of the Hamilton community, works for the Internal Revenue Service in Washington, D.C. Her speech was a testimony to the importance of increasing communication within the community.

Participants from all campus factions gathered in Kirner-Johnson and Schambach to discuss the five aspects of communication. They formed subgroups to discuss ideas regarding these issues, with 11 student facilitators and one faculty facilitator, Professor of History Kevin Grant, leading discussion.

One of the primary concerns discussed for the Hamilton campus is the lack of communication between cultures. A general feeling of apathy among whites seems to exist; the campus being predominantly white makes it hard for minorities to feel accepted or understood. Increased understanding of the various cultures existing on Hamilton's campus will only occur when students are willing to attend the many lectures and workshops offered throughout the year.

The committees came up with several other ideas on how to improve communication on campus. One discussion group felt that Beinecke Student Village does not utilize its space well. A diner and a mail center are the two primary areas of socialization. Everything is spread out on campus. The Bristol Campus Center, once the sight of the student activity center, houses the radio station, *Spec* office, and Student Assembly offices. Students gave several suggestions on how to maximize the space to its potential. A pool table or other form of recreation would add new life to the empty couches in the lobby of Beinecke.

All ideas center on making Beinecke a more comfortable and relaxed environment for the students to enjoy. Alan Rose, assistant director of student activities, mentioned that a Beinecke Advisory Commitee will be reforming soon, and he would welcome any input.

PHOTO BY DARREN BLOCK '01

1999 Adler conference participants sought to improve communication within and beyond the Hamilton campus.

Committees suggested the ELS building as a potential solution to the space problem. Perhaps ELS will house the expansion of facilities from Beinecke in the future. The student-professor relationship could be strengthened by lunches held in ELS, similar to those that the Azel Backus House hosts.

Cable is another important addition to consider. Many Hamiltonians complain of their bubble-like existence on the Hill. Cable would provide students with access to daily news stations. Students could watch the college station, Panorama, in their rooms instead of only in the diner. Students would be better informed, and the Communications Department could become more actively involved in the publication of ideas and events. WHCL, Hamilton's radio station, could play announcements more frequently, and the school could broadcasted it in more public places on campus. Hamilton has the facilities; they are just not using them to their full potential.

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Movie Reviews

By Mat Olney '01
Spectator Movie Critic

Bringing Out The Dead

Despite making millions of dollars for pictures like "8mm," " Con Air" and "Snake Eyes," Nicholas Cage hasn't taken a good role since his Oscar winning "Leaving Las Vegas" (and has gotten flack for it). This spell has ended with his latest, entitled "Bringing Out The Dead." Working with Martin Scorcese, Cage is a born-again actor. And for Scorcese, who impressed few with his last film "Kundun," he has reentered the ranks of the best around. "Bringing Out The Dead," based on Joe Connely's 1998 autobiographical novel, is a three-day span of Frank Pierce's (Nicholas Cage's) life. Pierce is a burnt out ambulance driver who doesn't sleep, doesn't eat (but boozes), and sees the dead all around him. He finds salvation in Patricia Arquette, the ex-junkie daughter of a heart attack victim. Like other Schraeder/Scorcese collaborations, especially "Taxi Driver," it is not the plot that makes "Bringing Out The Dead" shine. The directing, acting and writing are so deep and meaningful that the film remains in your thoughts for days. The first hour of the film is magnificient, especially visually. Scorcese is a master of filming the street. The street shots are very similar to those in "Taxi Driver." Paul Schraeder's script becomes weaker during the second half of the film, but Scorcese's directing gets even better. He effectively uses Christian images and lights. Furthermore, his choice of music makes the movie even better. He researches all types of music and uses what best fits each scene. In terms of acting, Cage is excellent as the lead character. He is effective in showing the desparity of Pierce's situation. Ving Rhames, John Goodman and Tom Sizemore are equally excellent as Pierce's partners. They add much needed comic relief to a downright depressing film. The only weak point in the acting is Patricia Arquette. Her character needed more emotion and more heart than Arquette gave, but overall, the acting is solid. Overall, this film is a cinematic masterpiece for its acting, writing, and most of all, directing. Scorcese pays attention to the smallest aspects of film, and these are what make "Bringing Out The Dead" so great. He mixes humor with depression and puts you on the street with Frank Pierce with incredible lighting and original camera angles. This film comes highly recommended from me!

PHOTO COURTESY PRAMOUNT

Cage and Arquette star in "Bringing out the Dead"

The Insider

It was only time before someone would step out and make a film about the tobacco industry. Some time back, Michael Mann, director of the "Miami Vice" television shows and the film "Heat," read an article in *Vanity Fair* about Jeffrey Wigand, a scientist who spoke out against the tobacco companies, and decided to create a full length feature. Thank God he did! "The Insider" stars Russell Crowe (LA Confidential) as Jeffrey Wigand, a chemist for a major tobacco company who discovered that cigarettes contain unnecessary dangerous toxins. When he brought the information to the company, they dismissed it. Upon getting fired from his job, he decided to bring these dangers to the public by appearing on "60 Minutes" with Mike Wallace, despite threats from the tobacco company and extreme family problems. After making the show, the tobacco company threatened to sue CBS if they aired the interview, so they put it on the backburner. This left Wigand out to dry. The only one on his side is CBS Producer Lowell Bergman, played wonderfully by Al Pacino. There are many reasons why this film is one of the best this year. Firstly, the writing is amazing; co-written by Michael Mann, it is very suspenseful. From the opening sequence where Bergman and Michael Wallace (Christopher Plummer) attempt an interview with a sub-Ayatollah to the end, The Insider will find you on the edge of your seat. Also, this is the first movie where we really get "the inside" scoop on how television shows are run. We see what goes on between the different broadcast stations and between the different papers. "The Insider" is just as educational as it is suspenseful. The acting is just as good as the writing. Russell Crowe abandons his "LA Confidential" tough guy Bud White and brings some emotion to his role. He is great in offsetting the high strung character played by Al Pacino. Plummer is also great as Mike Wallace. The directing is great. He lets the camera roam to let us subtly follow the characters throughout the movie. In fact, the camera does not stop moving throughout much of the film. The cinematography,as in "Heat," is stunning as well. Overall, this film has it all. It is intellectual, suspenseful, and a cinematographic masterpiece. "The Insider" is the best film I have seen this year

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WHCL brings Of Montreal

By Greg Geist'01
Entertainment Writer

Apple cider spiked with acid. Hula hoops. Cherry peels and marshmallows. What does all of this add up to? Of Montreal, The Essex Green, and The Marshmallow Coast in North Court this past Saturday night. The three bands, signed to Kindercore Records and part of the Elephant 6 Collective, made their way to Hamilton College to put on what was perhaps the most odd and wonderful show that may ever grace this campus. WHCL 88.7 FM sponsored the show and supplied apple cider and cider donuts courtesy of The Clinton Cider Mill and giveaways courtesy of The Last Unicorn, Fanatic Promotion, Pal-Mailorder, and Kindercore Records. Other sponsors included Chancey's Vintage Clothing, Virgo Bat and Leo Phrog's Coffeehouse, and the Crystal Mountain Magical Cafe and Gallery.

At one point in the show, an Of Montreal member proclaimed that the cider was spiked with acid. The jury is still out on that one. Rob Euell, one of the concert organizers, was responsible for tapping the cider keg, so if you had any hallucinogenic spells, he is the guy to thank.

What kind of a name for a group is Of Montreal? The name comes from Kevin Barnes, the mastermind behind the five-member band, and his experiences in the Quebec city. Barnes, who at the time was living in Florida, met a girl visiting from Montreal, and they fell in love. The girl went back to Montreal. Barnes, who signed a deal to put out a record shortly after, traveled to several parts of the country in search of band members. All the while he kept his relationship with the girl going through letters in the mail. When Barnes had the chance he went to visit the girl in Montreal. But the girl's feelings for Barnes had changed. Hurt and depressed by the rejection, Barnes believes that his life has been altered because of Montreal. Before Of Montreal took the stage, The Essex Green and The Marshmallow Coast performed for the 150 people in attendance. The Essex Green, making their way from Brooklyn, recently came out with their debut album Everything is Green on Kindercore Records. Currently the album is charting at #40 in the College Music Journal New Music Report (www.cmj.com) in its second week. The Essex Green delighted those in attendance with their neo-1960's *pop* music.

The Marshmallow Coast took the stage next and quickly changed the tempo. The Marshmallow Coast is a side project of Andy Gonzales, who is also in Of Montreal. Gonzales takes quirky and off the wall to a whole new level. The band opened up with "Lotus Person" in which Gonzales sings, "The mashed potato life that often flows/ is calculated on time, it's crescent glows/ You wrote a song in a new dimension/ You wrote a song of your own invention." Uh, yeah. Even though The Marshmallow Coast was quite entertaining (members of the band were styling sunglasses a la everyone's favorite motorcycle cops in the television show "CHIPS"), you could tell many people in the crowd were anticipating Of Montreal. People journeyed from Rochester, Binghamton, Ithaca, Buffalo and even as far as Michigan just to see Of Montreal in North Court. That's the attraction behind the bands in the Elephant 6 Collective. The bands in the E6 Collective have an underground mystique.If you don't know what the E6 collective is, check out *www.droom. nildram.co.uk/ marchant/faq.html.*

The fans that follow these bands (Neutral Milk Hotel, Olivia Tremor Control, and The Apples in Stereo to name a few) are throwbacks to the days when my mom was hip and teenage girls wearing tear drop glasses would scream and faint for those guys with the mop top haircuts. Enter Athens, Georgia's *pop* wizards, Of Montreal. While Of Montreal draws comparisons to The Beatles, The Beach Boys, and Weezer, they maintain a style all their own. Of Montreal performed songs from all four of their albums, even drawing back to their first album, 1998's Cherry Peel (Bar None Records). Of course, many of the songs are about Barnes' painful visit to Montreal. In "Baby," a crowd favorite, Barnes sings "I don't know if this was chance or if this happened by fate/ I don't expect you to feel the same, but if you did, well, that would be great." The bouncy and catchy tunes seemed to fool everyone into thinking that these are happy songs, especially with instruments like the toy piano, bells, clarinet, and keyboard. Of Montreal is also known to break out the kazoo on occasion. Although hula hoopin' fun was had my many, but Barnes is still disturbed and affected by his past, and that is what creates the genius in his songs. The songs create an escape for Barnes, and on this night Of Montreal, The Essex Green, and The Marshmallow Coast created a refreshing escape from the usual style of band that performs on campus.

Don't take my word for it, here is what other people had to say about the concert:

"It's nice to see something different at Hamilton. Hopefully the concert opened the eyes of some students who usually are in their rooms listening to Dave." -Joe Furst '01

"Super fun!" -Suz Massen, SUNY-Binghamton student, WHRW 90.5 fm Music Director, and author of the Super Fun! 'zine

Some web sites of interest: Official Of Montreal Web Site: *www.angelfire.com/ga/ ofmontreal.* The Essex Green Web Site: *http:/ /stratfordprojects.com/essexgreen/.* Kindercore Records: *www.kindercore.com.*

Look in this section every week for concert and album reviews of the best music you have probably never heard. Coming next week: New album reviews on the latest from Kincaid., Le Tigre, and my classic pick of the week, Neutral Milk Hotel.

Vinegar Tom in Minor Theater

Press Release

Hamilton College Department of Theatre and Dance presents VINEGAR TOM by Caryl Churchill, Obie award-winning author, and directed by Carole Bellini-Sharp.Set in 17th century rural England, VINEGAR TOM tells the story of two farm women named, and hanged, as witches. Churchill's contemporary play presents us with the idea "that witchcraft existed in the minds of its persecutors, that 'witches' were a scapegoat in times of stress like jews and blacks" (from the author's notes) One of the theater's most acclaimed playwrights, Ms. Churchill insightfully demonstrates the connection between fear of female sexuality and witch-hysteria.

Performers include Katie Coffey, Curt Confer, Brad Fleischer, Stephanie Gray, Anne Griffin, Rebecca Jewett, Cameron Larson, Lindsay McGrath, Lauren Mine, Justin Tyler, Rebecca Wadler and Elena Wood. Costume design by Amy Svoboda; set and lighting design by Bill Burd.

Eight Performances: November 11-13 & 17-20 at 8:00 PM and also at 2:00 PM on Saturday, November 13 in MINOR THEATER on the Hamilton College Campus. Tickets are: $5 General, $3 Students. Call 859-4057 for information.

Editorial

The Spectator is disappointed with the poor showing of administrators, faculty and staff at last weekend's Adler Conference. We applaud the members of these groups who did take the time to attend this event and discuss various issues relating to communications on campus. However, it is ironic that the only campus gathering devoted to an intellectual discussion of these issues was ignored by the vast majority of an administration that has rhetorically extolled the virtues of improved communications on numerous occasions over the course of this semester.

Most Hamilton students spend only four quick years here on the hill, and the willingness of these students to commit their time to attending, and in some cases organizing, an event that is dedicated to the long term well being of this institution is impressive indeed. As the segment of the Hamilton community that is presumably committed to a longer duration of service here, it is surprising that more people employed in various capacities at this college did not take the time to be involved. The reasons for this apathy are hard to identify. Perhaps this forum is not presumed to be an effective vehicle for progress. If this is true, then why has it persisted for 33 years? Why are alumni continually willing to return to Hamilton as keynote speakers and participants in this conference?

Obviously, there is some intrinsic worth in this tradition that inspires students to devote long hours to organizing it year after year, and that stirs certain alumni to generously give their time to it. Students who take part in this event each year do not seem to register any serious complaints about it, and often report it to be extremely enlightening and enjoyable. It would seem that other community members would eventually take this as a sign that the Adler Conference can lead them towards fundamental improvements in an important part of their lives.

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Letters

Response to Donation Criticism

Letter to the Editor,

In a recent letter to the editor, a student criticized the Bristol family for their generous donation towards a new science building. The student went on to say that "We Don't Need Your Money! What kind of a lunatic would flaunt their money like that..."

On behalf of the Bristol family and the student body I would like to ask this student, do you have any pride for Hamilton? The fact that god has blessed the Bristol family with the good fortune to give back to their alma mater is a benefit for the current students of Hamilton. Through Mr. Bristol's generosity, as well as all alumni, Hamilton has been able to provide its students with an exceptional education that draws top-quality students as well as academic professionals.

I believe it was disingenuous for a student who attends Hamilton College to tell an individual who obviously cares about our future, "to take back your money and spend it on something worthwhile". There is nothing more important to the future of our nation than the success of its youth.

Sincerely

Maurice I. Michaane '03
President of Class of 2003

Praise for Adler Conference

Letter to the Community:

After 33 years, the Adler Conference has held up to its tasking and has helped define a community by the community. This year's discussion of communications delved into the areas of technology and space, and how to foster external and internal dialogue. I was very encouraged by the issues addressed as well as the solutions posed. The students, professors and administrators who participated showed that they care about the college as well as the community, and are willing to work together to create a better place.

To everyone who participated in the conference, thank you for your energy, enthusiasm and ideas. I feel proud to be a alumna of Hamilton when I see the fine ideas we produced to resolve real issues on campus that effect the entire community. A special thanks to the Tri-chairs and Karen Green for a great conference that continues the tradition of learning from one another and caring to communicate. It could not have been accomplished without their vision and hard work. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of the event and I wish Hamilton the best while implementing the solutions.

Sona Virdi '94

Schwarz on Spec Editorial

To the Editor:

I applaud the improvement in The *Spectator* in the past few weeks, but I think your editorial concerning Dwight Lounge, and subsequent mention of the Lounge renovation in the most recent issue, misses the boat and the facts.

Dwight Lounge had not been renovated since the building was constructed in the 1960s. In fact, the Lounge was so out of date that it was designed while I was a student and on the Bristol Campus Center Committee. The use of it is not new, since it was always intended as "the College's living room" to welcome guests, including, for example, speakers and parents.

In your editorial, the Dwight Lounge renovation project is criticized in light of other needed improvements to campus facilities. However, you seem to forget the many recent renovations, including Saunders Residence Hall, Ferguson Residence Hall, upgrades of classrooms and athletic facilities, and, currently, the former Alpha Delta Phi house. Renovations are a constant cycle, and obviously there are always some to which we have not yet attended. Certainly, the commitment to build new science facilities, and thereby free up additional academic spaces (which went unnoticed in your editorial pages) will address many of these issues.

The funds for the Dwight Lounge came from an endowment fund set up for the specific purpose of maintaining the building. Unfortunately, when you called late Thursday afternoon before your article on Dwight Lounge went to press, Vice President Dan O'Leary, who is responsible for the College's finances, was unavailable because he was travelling on College business.

As journalists, you should know that the omission of facts, hyperbole, and gross generalizations does not serve you well. Keep up the good work by questioning and raising issues, but praise also where praise is warranted, and clarify facts rather than engaging in speculation. Only by doing so will you maintain your credibility and your integrity as journalists.

Respectfully,

Thomas J. Schwarz '66
Acting President

How Long?

How long do we have to wait before another Black church is burned in the South? How long do we have to wait before the nation witnesses another Black man being dragged throughout Texas? How long must we wait before another innocent Black man is riddled with 19 bullets by the New York police after they fire 41 shots and acknowledge a mistaken identity? Oh, how long must we wait before another Amadou Diallo, Patrick Bailey, Malik Jones, Marc Fitzsimmons, Jonny Gammage, or Archie Elliot is killed? Not long! On Dec. 2, 1999, another Black man will be murdered, however, this time the murder will not be by the police but the state of Pennsylvania.

This Dec. 2, 1999, Mumia Abu-Jamal will be executed for being a voice for the voiceless, standing up against the violation of people of color's civil rights, and for being an "untiring opponent of racism and police brutality"

As Mumia drove his taxi through southern Philadelphia on Dec. 9, 1981, he witnessed the harassment of his brother by Philadelphia police officer, Daniel Faulkner. After the smoke settled and an unidentified individual ran from the scene both Mumia and Faulkner laid on the ground shot-Faulkner fatally and Mumia wounded. Since 1982, Mumia Abu-Jamal has been incarcerated for a murder he did not commit. Judge Albert Sabo presided over Abu-Jamal's trial in 1982. Judge Sabo has placed more people on death row, mostly Black and Latino, than any other judge in the United States. Judge Sabo is a member of the Fraternal Order of Police. He was also openly hostile to Abu-Jamal's defense lawyer, prohibiting him from getting the money necessary to investigate and prepare an adequate defense. In addition, the prosecution used "what have since been ruled illegal means to keep Black people off the jury"(www.iacenter.org). Only two African American served as jurors on this case, although the city is 40 percent Black.

The prosecution's case is centered on Abu-Jamal's participation in the Black Panther Party, which they falsely portray as a hate group. Time is running out for Mumia Abu-Jamal and for the multitude of other Black people that are murdered and incarcerated daily. A change must come! It is up to you whether it is before or after the murder of another innocent Black man. Write to your congressperson and voice your concern about the unjust incarceration of Mumia Abu-Jamal and other brothers and sisters.

From the BLSU

Honesty, Integrity, Cellulite: A letter to the Community

To the Hamilton College Community;

The other day I was sitting sipping on my Slim-fast, taking long melodious drags off of a cancer stick and contemplating the reaction to my most recent attempts at a legitimate foray into the Hamilton College political scene. I commented to my esteemed colleague Brett Monroe (who was busily debating with me the benefits of Met-Rx over phen-fen as a medicinal way to increase metabolism rates), "I think perhaps I should run for President of student assembly and you ,my boy, should be the Vice-President!"

He looked at me and thought about the gravity of the statement, and my junior Spiro Agnew stated, "We are way too fat to run for office and I don't feel like pulling the usual Hamilton exercise routine, smoking butts while running ."

"Hush, hush, my boy," I replied, "Fat men have been running this country ever since William Howard Taft had to be greased out of a bath tub and Abraham Lincoln created a more perfect union."

Dan Quayle in training replied, "Ok, I see your point, but Abraham Lincoln was not fat like us. What does he have to do with the equation?"

"Brett, being fat or phat is not a physical attribute that all of these great men had, it was a state of mind."

"What are our qualifications for the job?" asked my good-natured Andrew Johnson.

"Well, you do bear a striking resemblance to current president in exile Gene Tobin. I mean, what the hell, I lived with Jack Spangler freshman year so we are doubly qualified."

As most ideas that are concocted over high caffeine, low-sugar beverages, it was somewhat wacky, but this idea had a glimmer of genius. El presidente Gormley, and at my side my very own Aaron Burr. But before you can say "A chicken in every pot and pot for every chicken," Brett "Nelson Rockefeller" Monroe had an intriguing point.

"Gorm, if we do this we need to discuss some issues, come up with some sort of platform that will share with the campus what we feel desperately needs to be changed."

"You mean like a higher bacon and cheese content in the food at Commons?"

"NO!" exclaimed my boisterous Walter Mondale, the Slim Fast spewing from his mouth, "Rendered pork fat is not an all campus issue. I'm referring to things people care about, we need to let them know how we stand on everything from black pants, string bikinis, boxer briefs, and NAFTA to the 5 cent cigar and reach arounds. Personally I'm for all of them, especially the latter, but we need to get the word out."

How could I possibly get people to listen to me? All of the soapboxes were taken and I couldn't get Tree from *Rattlebasket* to do a public service announcement. Then it dawned upon me faster than freshman girls storming the cages at club DU or a first year boy downloading porn from his T1 connection;

W.J. GORMLEY

I could abuse my position as an editor for the *Spec* and talk to the proletariat (well, bourgeoisie, but who's keeping track) directly through the miracle of student press. This, gentle reader, is the fruit of that brainstorm, a meandering treatise that will outline our program for change and our feelings about the issues. We call it the "True Hamilton College". and our journey for the presidency "The Search for THC." Here, in no particular order, are our theses, in the pages of the *Spec*, as opposed to nailing them upon the Chapel doors.

• Something needs to be done about how Student Assembly positions are voted for. I mean, no one votes for any of the different positions. Stephanie Dorenbosch won in a write-in campaign because no one was on the ballot and (I am not making this up) votes for variations on the phrase "my nutsack" were discounted. What if we bundled elections with registration? We would get a higher voter turnout, and every student would get a ballot in his or her hands.

• Also, we propose that Student Assembly be converted to a more easily accessible meeting. All issues should be discussed in a New England town meeting format held in the Chapel once a month. Another remedy could be like the inquisition that the British prime minister has to face every week from both sides of the political spectrum. It keeps the elected officials on their toes or just lets you know how good they are at lying. We could gather together all of the different student representatives, in addition to college officials, and have a legitimate free ranging parliamentary debate. Any student would be free to speak his or her mind and the representatives would answer their questions. We are a small enough community for this system to work.

• So what's up with the J-board? I like it. In fact I love the J-board so much, I never want to have to sit in front of it. I appreciate what they do but just don't want to have to talk to big brother; I am sure you can understand. Laugh, scoff, but that's the point. You know what I am talking about, that email that you get every once in a while about how your fellow comrades have done something vague. What about specifics? I mean if you think about it, if you ever have to sit in front of your fellow colleagues and administrators, don't you want to know what has happened, how it happened, and the basis for their decision or findings? Not just that a certain finding was found, that's vague. We would like more information out of the J-board, not names per say, but just more details. Lets call it the personality behind the organization and its decisions. The J-board can do a number of things, check out your "constitution of the student body." They can make rulings from warnings to expulsion. I am not saying they do a bad job, but I don't feel like I know enough about their cases or the decision process. Benny Mann, I love you and the rest of the J-board.

• More hot first year girls. You hear that, Admissions! We want every cheerleader and high school temptress you can muster out of the applicant pool. We need something to keep the football team happy and non-steaky. I mean winning might do the trick but we think this plan is much more feasible.

• More hot first year boys. I mean only one Abercrombie & Fitch model out of 500 first years? Come on, Hamilton is attractive, but hell lets be in *Playboy* and *Playgirl*! (This is Brett talking here, I think that the less competition for me the better. Ladies, vote for this man, he's got your best interests in mind.)

• We as students need to take more responsibility as adults. I (Gorm) will be the first to admit I have a less than stellar academic record, with a GPA lower than most people's BAC at a Bundy party. It's not the system that screwed me over, it is my own actions and decisions. If more students realized that the administration is actually there to help and not oppress us, then a real dialogue can be started. One of the things I have always loved about Hamilton is the trust and responsibility placed in our laps for our own education. We need to embrace this and not hide behind a thin excusatory veneer of blaming others.

• Hot tubs should be allowed in dorm rooms. I've seen it done and it is fantastic. Yeah, it is decadent, but it really is fantastic. Try it some time.

• Private societies should have access to Student Activities funds. If a private society wants to host a social event or an educational event, they should be able to draw upon student funds to do this. We are not trying to suggest that student funds be used to buy booze, but how about every thing else. If a society wants to host a band, could Student Activities funds be used to bring that band to campus?. If it is possible now, great, but if it is not it should be. (I [Gorm] am a member of a private society and Brett is not. We disagree on this issue, but I put him on the ticket for his looks, not his mind)

Well, Ham tech, what do you think? It makes sense to us, but what about you. Drag your lazy asses off of your Salvation Army couches, brush the Tony's off your chest and get involved. We did and we are Phat as hell.

Yours in Heftiness,

Jay "I'm just big boned" Gormley '01

P.S. Stay tuned next week as Brett and I give you the inside scoop on the Hamilton Campaign trail as we whistlestop from Bundy to Keehn to the *Spec* office as the "Search for THC" continues. Same fat time, same fat channel

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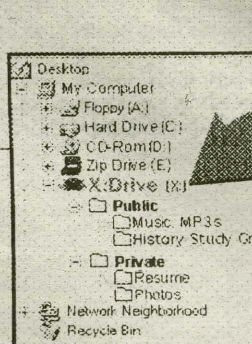

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Continentals rebound from disappointing NESCAC meet

by Fred Shear '03
SPORTS WRITER

Last weekend, the Hamilton men's cross country team showed that it was, among other things, resilient. Coming off a below average meet at the NESCAC Championship, the Continentals rebounded nicely and finished third in the NYSCTC Cross Country Championship at SUNY Oswego.

The Continentals placed two positions higher than they did last year at the State meet, and also improved two positions from their NESCAC standing last week. "I'm very happy we came back strong and fought hard to earn a great team placement," a pleased coach Brett Hall remarked. "We ran in some tough conditions. It was very windy, and it was a tough course to get a rhythm going."

The favorite of the meet, St. Lawrence, won the Championship with 35 points. They were followed by Ithaca 63, Hamilton 101, RIT 124, and SUNY Fredonia 129.

Hamilton was led by red-hot junior co-captain Scott Taylor, who showed why he is one of the top runners in the state. Taylor finished fifth overall in the field of 126. His time of 27 minutes was his best of the year.

Another Continental who continues to get better and better is sophomore Mac Weiss, who finished eleventh overall at 27:15. Coach Hull was especially impressed by Weiss's performance. "Mac started out solid, and got into a good position in the beginning. He was able to work himself up to eleventh place, and he finished with a lot more than expected."

Junior Sam Brown, quietly having a very successful year, placed 26th overall with a time of 27:50. Sophomore Doug Zeyak was right behind him. His time of 27:52 was good for 28th overall. Freshman Nate Arnold, hampered by sickness last week, made clear that last week was history. He rounded out Hamilton's top five at 27:57. Junior Steve Guditus, despite battling injuries, showed tremendous fortitude and crossed the line after 29 minutes and 20 seconds.

Things only get more exciting and interesting for the Continentals. They travel to Regionals next week to be held at SUNY Geneseo. Coach Brett Hull has a difficult decision to make regarding who to send. He has to choose seven from a well balanced roster.

Last season the Continentals finished eighth, which was considered their best showing in years. There is no doubt that the competition will be stiff, but it looks like the Continentals will rise to the challenge. It will be extremely difficult for the Continentals to qualify for nationals as a team, but they will lay it all on the line.

Mac Weiss, for one, is ready. "It's time for us to get the lead out of our shorts and shoes, and show what we can do!" proclaimed Weiss.

Women's X-C sets sights on NCAA Championships

by Michael Everhart '02
SPORTS WRITER

Last weekend, the women's cross-country team finished second in the NYSCTC Championships, 13 points behind SUNY Geneseo.

"On an awful course against heavy wind and a few bloody shins, we ran well," sophomore Maggie Hanson said, "but finished a disappointing second to Geneseo. We're really gunning for Regionals next weekend, and we can use states as a learning experience." Hanson lead the team as she has all season by finishing first with a time of 18:58, followed by freshman Jen Cammarano, who finished eighth with a time of 19:39. Finishing right behind Cammarano was sophomore Annie Toth, who finished ninth with a time of 19:45.

Toth said, "This weekend's meet was somewhat of a disappointment. We lost to Geneseo by a few points, which brought us down in the national rankings. We did have some phenomenal performances, however — most notably, Maggie Hanson and Sara Roitman, who unexpectedly joined our top five. If we focus this week, we should be able to step up to next week's competition." Junior co-captain Emily Hill finished fifteenth with a time of 20:09. Roitman finished twenty-second with a time of 20:31, and rounded out the top five runners for the first time all season.

Senior Co-captain Lesley Vars finished thirty-sixth with a time of 20:58. She said, "It was disappointing not to have won states, however we had several strong individual performances."

Finishing seventy-fourth and seventy-fifth were sophomore Sarah Lichtenstein and freshman Sue Ferranti, respectively, with times of 22:03 and 22:05. Coach Ellen Hull remarked, "We ran a great race despite a 15-person pile-up at the start, which included a few Hamilton runners. Our goal was to win the State Championship, but with a few of our top runners falling, it was a mad dash just to catch the pack. We still finished a close second behind Geneseo—very respectable considering the circumstances." Rounding out the team were freshmen Tricia Kowalski and Greta Geer. They finished eighty-second and eighty-third with times of 22:18 and 22:22. Geer finished ahead of thirty-two runners and five minutes ahead of the last place runner.

Saturday, the team travels to SUNY Geneseo to try to qualify for the NCAA Championships, which are being held next weekend at the University of Wisconsin at Oshkosh.

As Coach Hull said, "Our focus all season has been to prepare for the upcoming Regional NCAA race. The team is hungry for the competition. The top four teams from New York and New Jersey plus the next five individuals will qualify for the NCAA Championships. We will be racing with five nationally ranked teams: SUNY Cortland, SUNY Plattsburgh, SUNY Geneseo, Colscores will be very close. We will have to have our best race of the season to be in contention, but I think they can do it."

Hanson has only been beaten by one runner all season, and has a good chance of qualifying herself if the team does not qualify. Cammarano has recently been very strong and has greatly improved over the course of the season.

Vars added, "I think that we definitely have the ability to beat Geneseo weekend. We just have to pull it together as a team. Regionals will be a high pressure meet, which will determine whether or not we qualify for the National championship. Beating [SUNY] Geneseo is a necessity."

Every Monday night
at 7:00 PM
Join Beverly Low for

The Women's Sports Page

This week: Women's basketball preview with head coach Julie Diehl

This weekend:

Join
Peter Ringel & Greg Ernstrom
for live coverage of Continentals football

Hamilton vs. Bates Bobcats
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Saturday 12:45 PM

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Sports Round-up: from Hack-a-Shaq to the Hot Stove League

There's lots of action going on in all of the major sports leagues. Here's a brief look at what's happening in the world of sports.

NBA Action

It just wouldn't be an NBA season if Shaquille O'Neal didn't complain about the NBA officiating. O'Neal always whines about getting "hacked" down under the basket. This past offseason O'Neal decided that he was going to add some more weight to "protect himself" from getting banged up in the paint. I have a solution for you, Shaq: How about you work on free throw shooting over the summer instead of putting on more weight.

Shawn Marion, the Phoenix Suns' first round pick in this year's draft, is tearing it up. He was the Suns' leading scorer in the preseason. Marion has adapted very well to the Suns style of offense and has seized every opportunity given to him. At this very early juncture in the season, he may be the leading candidate.

Football Freestyle

After starting the season with six straight wins, the St. Louis Rams have now dropped two straight. This week is pivotal for the Rams, not just for their record, but more importantly for their morale. St. Louis plays its division rival the Carolina Panthers this Sunday. If the Panthers escape with a victory they could jump back into the race for the NFC West crown, a division that right now seems all but dead.

After last week's come from behind performance against the Cowboys on Monday night, the Vikings finally showed us why they were the preseason favorites. The Vikings showed America that they can strike at any time, but just think how dangerous this team really could, more importantly should, be if they could put two solid halves of football together. If the Vikings get into the

DAVID ZANE

Inside the Clubhouse

playoffs, they are a team to be reckoned with.

Indianapolis has to be the surprise thus far in the AFC. The Colts were written off by most people as a team that was too young to contend this year, but they have proved everyone wrong. In fact, they should probably be 8-0, as Indianapolis blew a 28-0 lead in week two, and then was robbed by a horrible officiating call in the game against the Dolphins. It would not be one bit surprising to see the Colts playing come January 30, 2000. But, the Colts will face some tough competition from two Florida teams.

The two favorites thus far are the Miami Dolphins and Jacksonville Jaguars. The Dolphins have proven that they can win without their offensive staple, Dan Marino, which bodes well for the post-Marino years that seems to draw closer every offseason. Last week the Dolphins looked great in their 17-0 victory over the Tennessee Titans, but the Jacksonville Jaguars are still the team to beat.

The Jaguars have one advantage and that is their schedule. They play the Ravens twice, and the Browns, Bengals, Steelers, Broncos and Titans once. So, their only two remaining tests are against the Broncos, Titans, and Steelers, depending on which Pittsburgh team shows up. The Jaguars really won't get their first big test until they hit the postseason. But, you can bet they will be ready for the competition.

Hot stove league

It seems as though everyone who is anyone is on the trade blocks this offseason, from Ken Griffey, Jr. to Craig Biggio. In other words, there is going to be a lot of movement this winter. Many people thought that many of the trades would be taking place this week at the general manager's meetings in Laguna Nigel, California, but there has been relatively little action on the trade front. In the coming weeks, you will definitely see some stars swapping places. Here's a round up of the latest rumors:

Ken Griffey, Jr.

The current front runner for Griffey is probably the Cincinnati Reds, with Houston and St. Louis hot in pursuit. In addition, the Mets are reportedly set to offer Octavio Dotel, Edgardo Alfonzo, and perhaps even Rey Ordonez to the Mariners in exchange for Griffey.

The Braves, who were rumored to be the front runners, appear, to have dropped out of the race because they feel as though they would be mortgaging their future for perhaps only one year of service from Griffey. If the Mariners allow teams to negotiate a contract with Griffey before the trade, look for the Braves to get back in the action.

Pitching

Look for both the Mets and the Cleveland Indians to be in the hunt for any human being that can throw a baseball off the mound. Well, that may be a bit overexaggerated, but in reality these two teams will be mentioned in just about every deal involving a starting pitcher. Among the names that are available are David Wells and Darryl Kile. Now that Andy Ashby has been traded, look for the Indians to try and make a deal for San Diego pitcher Sterling Hitchcock. A very interesting scenario involving David Wells has the pitcher New Yorkers love headed back to the Yankees in a deal that would include New York's young first baseman Nick Johnson. However, this is very unlikely to happen considering New York does not want to part with any of their young talent.

One final thought: with Los Angeles giving Shawn Green a $14 million a year deal, how high are baseball saleries going to go? Just wait until next winter when the big free agent crop hits the market.

Beat the Experts

Each pick has been selected to win contest outright. *If any given game ends in a tie, that game is thrown out of the lineup. Beat the "Experts"* is by no means associated with organized gambling on professional or college sports. Whichever Guest Handicapper posts the best winning percentage during their week will be selected as *Hamilton's Athlete of the Week* (honorary) in the final issue of this semester and will be entitled to all the perks therein, namely an all-expense paid dinner with our devilishly handsome **Sports Editors, Peter and David, as well as his or her picture in *The Spectator*.**

Specially Selected Sporting Events	**Peter Ringel** *Spectator Sports Editor* — Last Week: 8-4, To date: 71-36	**David Zane** *Spectator Sports Editor* — Last Week: 6-6, To date: 70-37	**Riley Fenner** *Spectator Editor-in-Chief* — Last Week: 6-6, To date: 60-47	**Chris McCarthy Sophomore** *Guest #10* — Last Week's Guest: Matt Williamson 8-4
NFL				
Baltimore at Jacksonville 11/14	Jaguars	Jaguars	Ravens	Jaguars
Cleveland at Pittsburgh 11/14	Steelers	Steelers	Steelers	Steelers
Green Bay at Dallas 11/14	Packers	Packers	Packers	Cowboys
Kansas City at Tampa Bay 11/14	Chiefs	Bucs	Chiefs	Bucs
Minnesota at Chicago11/14	Bears	Vikings	Vikings	Vikings
San Francisco at New Orleans 11/14	49ers	Saints	Saints	Saints
Washington at Philadelphia 11/14	Redskins	Redskins	Redskins	Redskins
Carolina at St. Louis 11/14	Rams	Rams	Rams	Rams
Detroit at Arizona 11/14	Lions	Lions	Lions	Lions
Miami at Buffalo 11/14	Dolphins	Dolphins	Dolphins	Bills
Tennessee at Cincinatti 11/14	Titans	Titans	Titans	Titans
NY Jets at New England 11/15	Patriots	Patriots	Patriots	Patriots

If you think that you can beat these "experts," drop us a line and we will try to get you in. Write "I can beat the experts" on a piece of paper and add your name, then fold it and address it to the sports editor at *The Spectator*. Drop it in campus mail and if you're randomly selected, you'll quickly receive a form for you to make your picks.

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NESCAC competition analysis

NESCAC Troubles continued from page 12

selves, and the campus community as a whole.

One major problem remains admissions. Many students who apply here, both athletes and non-athletes are applying to many NESCAC schools. In fact, prospective students may only apply to NESCAC schools. The hard reality of the situation is that Hamilton is not going to get the best athletes within this pool of prospective students. The strongest students in this group traditionally go to places like Williams, Amherst, and Middlebury. We like to think that we are in that upper echelon (academically) of NESCAC schools, but that is simply not the case.

As a result of those schools getting stronger students than Hamilton, their admissions departments can afford to admit some athletes who are sub-par students without hurting their academic standing in the all important college rankings.

However, Hamilton gets the middle of the road NESCAC applicants, and does not have the luxury to accept too many athletes with lower scores, because it negatively affects their academic reputation. Williams gets more applicants with all A's and 1400's on the SAT's and can admit more athletes with lower grade point averages and lower SAT scores without taking a hit in their median SAT scores. Hamilton's applicant pool is not as strong and therefore the admissions office cannot make as many acceptions for less qualified athletes than our competitors.

"Many Hamilton sports teams do not have a history of success. When trying to recruit players, it is more difficult when there is no winning tradition to speak of. This problem is not insurmountable."

Another part of this argument deals with the obligation of student athletes who ulimately choose to matriculate at Hamilton. During the fall and winter, head coaches submit a list of prospective student athletes to admissions. The coaches must be realistic and make sure their lists are both fair and reasonable. In other words, if a coach asks admissions to accept three students with 800 SAT's, they are wasting their time. The admissions office simply will not consistently accept athletes that are clearly below its normal standards.

However, coaches sometimes succeed in getting athletes who are not the strongest academically admitted to Hamilton. Once these kids enroll, it is their duty to perform well academically. If a coach is able to get a player in, then the player must take advantage of that opportunity and strive to succeed.

It is important that the borderline athlete succeeds academically, because it reflects well on the coach who worked with admissions to get the student accepted in the first place. The coach now has more weight and influence with admissions, because his or her players have performed well academically.

For example, if a coach gets three students accepted who are good athletes, but borderline students, and they all end up on academic probation, then the coach loses significant leverage the next time they have to deal with admissions. How can a coach continue to ask admissions to accept new students when their current athletes are performing poorly in the classroom? It just will not work. Student athletes have the obligation to succeed academically, because it not only benefits them as individuals, but it also benefits the college and the athletic department.

The fact that Hamilton is the only NESCAC school located in New York hurts our athletic programs. It is very difficult to find great players from New England and convince them to come to upstate New York. The top New England student-athletes are more familiar with Trinity, Amherst, Middlebury, and other NESCAC competitors and usually are going to attend those schools over Hamilton.

However, Hamilton does have an advantage of its own over other NESCAC schools. We should have more success recruiting more New York athletes than the other NESCAC schools. But we also have greater competition from the SUNY schools and other quality institutions like Ithaca, Union, and St. Lawrence that attempt to recruit the same players. Hamilton must successfully recruit athletes in New York, while also stealing quality players from New England.

Many Hamilton sports teams do not have a history of success. When trying to recruit players, it is more difficult when there is no winning tradition to speak of. This problem is not insurmountable. Sports programs get turned around all the time. There has to be something other than the team's record that makes an athlete want to come to Hamilton (Maybe the coach is very dynamic and charismatic and that attracts a player or there is an opportunity for early playing time or nice athletic facilities).

Speaking of facilities, they remain a contentious topic among athletes and coaches. Hamilton should strive to be the best, but that is not always possible. The second best goal is to be competitive with other schools. Hamilton should work toward having facilities that are tantamount to other NESCAC schools. We should have a library, computer facilities, and food service that mirror those of Williams or Middlebury. We should also have athletic fields and practice fields which are on the same level as our competitors.

A team without a winning tradition must find something else attractive about its program, because obviously losing is not appealing. Schools or specific programs with winning traditions speak for themselves and can point to NCAA wins or ECAC championships. Once a team starts winning, prospective athletes begin to seek out the school, instead of the school having to reach out to the athletes.

In addition, many of the athletes that arrive at Hamilton are simply not committed enough to winning. Many of them go to practice and go home. Many players feel that the basics are enough to win. No, not all of them do that, but there is a significant number who fall under that catergory. In reality, going to practice and then going home only allows you to compete, and if a team wants to be successful, it needs to spend extra time making itself better.

Finally, the school community does not support sports and does not view sports as an important part of our school. There is a large group of people here that believe academics and athletics are enemies; that they are separate entities that cannot co-exist, but nothing could be further from the truth. Why are the best athletic schools in the NESCAC also the best academic schools? It is possible to succeed at both, but many in the position to make changes have failed to realize the error of their ways. Athletics and academics work together to make a school better.

Overall, our student body does not support its athletic teams. We do not rally around them. One striking example was last year's home football game against Williams. They had more fans than we did, and from the sound of the crowd, one would have thought the game was being played in Williamstown, Massachusetts, not Clinton, New York.

The crowds at many Hamilton athletic events are pitiful. If you have ever attended a football or basketball game at Williams or Amherst, the atmosphere is completely different. There is no reason why the Hamilton community should not turn out to support its teams.

All of these factors account for our athletic struggles in NESCAC competition and some changes need to be made if we hope to move away from mediocrity and toward the top of the standings in almost all sports. And if we start to succeed on the playing field, it will only enhance our academic standing.

Thank you to Jimmy McCarthy '01, and all of those who shall remain nameless, but helped to contribute to this article.

Next week: Part II will focus on the relationship between Athletics and Admissions-Coaches and Deans, only in next week's *Spec* Sports!

Awards & Predictions

	Peter Ringel	David Zane
Best Team	Women's Tennis	Women's Cross Country
Best Rookie	Carissa Baritell Women's Soccer	Lindsey Schantz Women's Tennis
Best Upperclassman	Maggie Hanson Women's Cross Country	Maggie Hanson Women's Cross Country
Best Coach	Bill Austin, Tennis	Bill Austin, Tennis
Best Hamilton Performance	Azure Davey, W. Soccer (0.74 GAA & 111 saves)	Charles Martin vs. Tufts (4 catches, 102 yds, 1 TD)
Best Performace vs. Hamilton	Colby Football Team	Wesleyan Football Team
Biggest Surprise	Women's Tennis	Volleyball
Biggest Disappointment	Football	Football
Most Promising Team for 2000 Fall Season	Men's Soccer	Women's Tennis
Best Sophomore Season	Lorena Gonzalez Field Hockey	Jay Morell Football
Most Promising Men's Winter Sports Team	Men's Basketball	Men's Ice Hockey
Most Promising Women's Winter Sports Team	Women's Ice Hockey	Women's Ice Hockey

Crew finishes successful season

Crew continued from page 12

Princeton, and UPenn. That seemed to be the story for the most part of the day as Hamilton crews continually did well against similar size schools and made inroads against much larger schools in events like the Varsity Women's 8 and the Varsity Men's 4.

The results of the fall season seem to indicate that both the men's and women's crew teams are becoming more and more competitive against traditional rowing schools. While the school granted the team varsity status last year, the athletes realize that the transition to varsity status is far from complete. Senior co-captain, Eric Jones states, "I think we are still learning what it really means to be a varsity sport. Most of the team is still getting used to the time commitment and effort that a varsity sport requires. As we adjust to the changes, I think we're also just beginning to realize our potential. A school this small competing with much larger and more established rowing schools is a big accomplishment, but I don't think any of us are content. We know that in order to improve further, it will take a lot of hard work for the rowers and coaches."

The team now moves indoors where it will begin to train in earnest for the spring season. The goal will be to improve on last year's silver medal at the State Championships, a first in the history of Hamilton crew. Coach Bilyea concludes "All of our crews have put themselves in a position to be successful in the spring."

November 12, 1999

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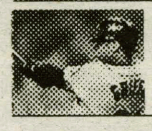
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Spectator
SPORTS

Take two: Volleyball wins a pair at NESCACs

by Chris Preston '03
SPORTS WRITER

About a month ago, women's volleyball coach Susan Keller stressed to her players the importance of learning to cope with the taller players they would have to face in their upcoming games against NESCAC opponents. Having seen her team just breeze through UCAA competition, Coach Keller warned them that life in the NESCAC would be more of a struggle.

And a struggle it was indeed. In the middle of the Continentals' first NESCAC game—against Trinity College—Barb Dalgish '03, one of the team's superior "leapers" according to Coach Keller, broke her foot and was lost for the season. This was a major loss for the Continentals since Dalgish's leaping ability would have been a valuable asset in attempting to stymie the taller NESCAC teams. The Continentals went on to lose the game.

Perhaps this was going to be more of a struggle than the Continentals realized. With such an inauspicious start to the NESCAC portion of the schedule, the team could have easily lost the confidence which they gained through their earlier success. They had every reason to feel unsure of themselves knowing that the Trinity game was only the beginning of a brutal stretch of volleyball.

But they did no such thing. The team continued to persevere and show excitement as the season progressed.

"These players exhibited such excitement and enthusiasm," Keller remarked. "They were just a joy to be around all season."

While they continued to struggle a bit after their opening NESCAC loss to Trinity, the Continentals did carry a 15-12 overall record heading into last weekend's (Nov. 5-6) tournament at Trinity and had managed a valuable victory in the NESCAC to go with its two losses. Still, they were seeded 10th out of the 11 NESCAC teams and were faced with the daunting task of facing Trinity once again. This time, however, the Continentals

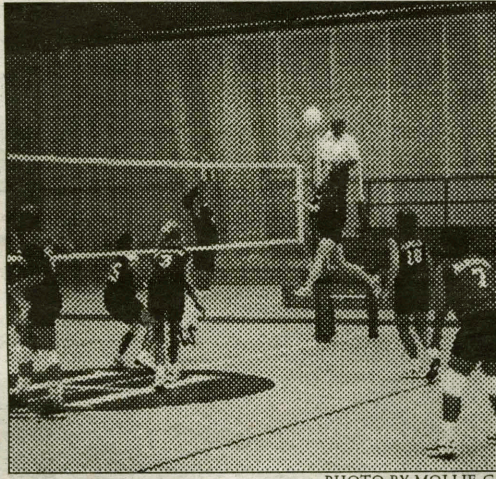

PHOTO BY MOLLIE GARDNER '03

The volleyball team spiked their way to a seventh place finish at NESCACs.

were up for the challenge and were tied 2-2 through four games with Trinity, which had the luxury of playing in its own home gym. Putting forth a valiant effort, led by Sarah Tschampel '00—the team's lone senior—Kate Clark '02, and Meghan Mullaney '03, the Continentals came within two points of victory, eventually bowing in the deciding fifth game 15-13.

Despite the opening loss in this double elimination tournament, the team again held their heads high and fired themselves up for their next opponent, Connecticut College. This time, their excitement translated into total domination, as the Continentals won in relatively easy fashion, 3-0. Being able to win in three games against Connecticut College was important because another five game thriller was in store for them against Bowdoin. Bowdoin took a commanding 2-0 lead on the Continentals with narrow margins of victory in each game. Again, Hamilton could have easily given up and provided themselves with an extra couple of hours for offseason relaxation. Naturally, they battled back to win the next three games, culminated by a convincing 15-5 spanking in the final game. The win over Bowdoin (13-15, 13-15, 15-11,15-10,15-5) propelled the suddenly upstart Continentals into a match against the Wesleyan Cardinals.

But alas, no doubt running on fumes by this time having endured two, five game nail-biters, the Continentals were no match for the tall and intimidating Cardinals. "It was a little intimidating facing Wesleyan," Coach Keller explained. "They are so tall that when they hit the ball over the net it comes at you so fast you barely have time to react."

The Continentals' season ended with an overall record of 17-14, a tie for 7th place in the NESCAC Tournament (disproving the legitimacy of the number 10 seed bestowed upon them going into the tournament), and tremendous excitement heading into next year.

"We had a much better year than last year," said Clark, one of the stars of the NESCAC tournament and throughout the course of the season. "We knew we had enough talent to be a pretty good team, but this year the difference was that we played more as a team."

Keller agreed with Clark's evaluation: "We saw outstanding personal efforts from everyone. (For example), against Connecticut College Allie Jackson '02, who normally plays back row, moved up to the front row and played great." While contributions came from everyone on the team, three players stood out in the NESCAC Tournament:

Tschampel, playing her final weekend of college volleyball, had seven aces, 34 kills, 74 assists, eight blocks, and a whopping 101 digs. Clark, who was among the top 10in kills in the NESCAC for much of the season, had 58 of them to go with three aces, 34 blocks, and 22 digs. Finally, Mullaney chipped in with five aces, 35 kills, six blocks, and 98 digs.

While the versatile Tschampel will certainly be tough to replace, the Continentals should have everone else back next season. That fact alone has everyone looking forward to the future of Hamilton volleyball. "I think we will definitely be better next year," Clark said enthusiastically.

Coach Keller was equally enthusiastic about next season, but explained that, "we may have a tougher schedule to prepare us more for NESCAC competition. You could see us improve in strength, but our record may not improve."

Their record certainly improved this year, Keller's first as women's volleyball coach at Hamilton. Should they continue to improve next year, they may no longer have to worry about the height difference when facing NESCAC opponents, and defeating Hamilton may be the tallest order of all.

Crew team becomes 'more competitive' in second year

STAFF REPORTS

Hamilton's crew team started its second season of varsity status hoping to build on last year's successes.

The fall season started with the Head of the Erie at the team's boathouse in Rome. The regatta turned out to be the most successful day of racing in the program's history as four of the eight crews won gold medals, and two others picked up a silver and a bronze, respectively. This was good enough for a second place team total ahead of such traditional rowing schools as Ithaca and Rochester.

Head Coach Joe Bilyea was especially pleased with the performance of the Novice program, "The Novices really went out and rowed aggressively today. Most times, Novices in their first races are so worried about not making mistakes that they forget to race as hard as they can. The fact that both the Men and Women won their Novice events and our second novice women's boat took the bronze shows me that these athletes are driving themselves."

The next two regattas, the Stonehurst Invitational in Rochester and the Head of the Charles in Boston, are two regattas that the team would rather forget. At both regattas, Hamilton crews were assessed bizarre time penalties. Coach Bilyea quipped that the last time he got this many penalty minutes, he was back in Canada playing hockey. "The penalties at the Charles were really hard to accept. They added one minute to each of our crew's actual elapsed times for rowing without a bow number. In both cases, though, we got hit by someone else and they knocked it off." While hit with similar penalties in Rochester, both men's boats didn't do that bad even with the penalty. The two crews in the Varsity Men's 4 were 7th and 13th before the penalty. The Varsity Women's 8 managed to escape without penalties and turned in a strong 10th place showing that included a one second victory over Middlebury in a very close 1500 meter sprint.

The fall season wound up with the Head of the Schuylkill where both the Men's and Women's teams got back to their successful ways. The Women's program was lead by the Novice Women's 8 which placed an incredible 8th out of 41. Novice Coach, Chad Jedlic, pointed out that the only crews the Hamilton women didn't beat were the recruited freshmen from Division I schools like Syracuse,

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Why do we struggle in the NESCAC?

Part I of a III part series

PETER RINGEL

The Ringel Angle

There are a lot of theories floating around about why Hamilton's athletic teams struggle against their NESCAC opponents.

There is not one answer, but after researching the problem extensively, we offer the following reasons. In the fall of 1999, Hamilton College has struggled against the other ten schools that make up the NESCAC.

Men's soccer was 0-3, losing to Colby, Middlebury, and Williams. Women's soccer lost its lone NESCAC contest to Colby, while field hockey also lost to the White Mules. In fact, Colby dominated Hamilton on parents weekend (October 23rd), defeating the Continentals in four different sports. The football team is the only team whose schedule is comprised exclusively of NESCAC opponents, and it has gone 0-7, heading into this weekend's season finale with Bates.

Volleyball has enjoyed perhaps the most success of any Hamilton team finishing 1-2 in the regular season versus NESCAC teams. The lone victory was over Connecticut College (who is at the bottom of the volleyball standings in the NESCAC) and was the only victory for any of Hamilton's fall teams against NESCAC opposition. Men's cross-country placed eighth out of eleven NESCAC schools in the NESCAC Championships, while the women's team finished an impressive fourth. The women's team, under Coach Ellen Hull, has been one of the few brightspots for Hamilton's athletic program this school year.

The best team this fall was clearly the women's tennis team. Bill Austin's women finished a very impressive 10-1, but did not play any NESCAC teams. However, the team will battle a few NESCAC schools in the spring, which should provide a better indication of how competitive the women's team really is compared with other NESCAC schools. Conversely, the men's tennis team is not competitive in the NESCAC. The team finished last season tied for ninth in the conference.

Hamilton performs well against other New York schools, but struggles against NESCAC schools. As a college, we are very proud of our involvement in the NESCAC (both academically and athletically), but it is frustrating when we continue to struggle on the playing fields. There is not one group that deserves blame for the problems we suffer against NESCAC teams. However, there are many factors that contribute to these problems. The cause of these problems results from a combination of the following: the admissions department, varsity coaches, poor recruiting, the athletes them-

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